

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 06402 221537Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CU-04 BIB-01 /062 W

-----002378 222051Z /70

R 221439Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9738

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, GH, ET, US

SUBJ: SOVIET-INSPIRED ATTACKS ON CIA

REF: (A) STATE 176677, (B) ADDIS ABABA 4803

(C) ACCRA 6201

1. I TOOK THE OCCASION OF AN AUGUST 19 MEETING ON OTHER MATTERS WITH ERIC OTOO, SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECURETARY OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, TO THANK HIM FOR ARRANGING TO HAVE GHANAIAN EMBASSY IN ADDIS ABABA DENY JULY 23 STORY IN ETHIOPIAN HERALD RE ALLEGED DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN GOG AND AMERICAN EMBASSY ACCRA. OTOO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND STATED GOG WAS PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT IN THIS CASE.

2. I THEN MENTIONED TO OTOO EMBASSY'S CONCERN OVER BLATANT ATTACK ON CIA WHICH HAD APPEARED ON FRONT PAGE OF AUGUST 10 EDITION OF PEOPLE'S EVENING NEWS (REF C), POINTING OUT THAT IN OUR VIEW IT HARDLY SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN WRITTEN BY A GHANAIAN. WHILE EMBASSY FULLY RECOGNIZED THAT NEWS WAS NOT A GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED NEWSPAPER, IT WAS CONCERNED THAT OTHERS MIGHT BE SEEKING

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PAGE 02 ACCRA 06402 221537Z

TO USE GHANAIAN MEDIA TO LAUNCH ATTACKS ON THE US THIS DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO RELAXATION OF TENSIONS NOR DID IT SEEM TO BE IN MUTUAL INTEREST OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES. OTOO TOOK MY POINT BUT STATED THAT PEOPLE'S EVENING NEWS WAS NOT AN IMPORTANT PAPER IN GHANA; THAT EVERY COUNTRY, "EVEN US," HAD ITS IRRESPONSIBLE JOURNALLISTS; AND THAT WE SHOULD NOT TAKE UNDUE NOTE OF THIS



PARTICULAR ARTICLE.

3. COMMENT: WHILE OTOO'S REACTIONS WERE EXPECTED,  
EMBASSY'S CONCERN OVER USE OF LOCAL MEDIA BY OUTSIDERS  
TO ATTACK U.S. HAS BEEN EXPRESSED AT A HIGH LEVEL.  
THIS CONCERN IS ALSO BEING BROUGHT TO GOG'S ATTENTION  
THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS.  
HOLMES

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NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ALLEGATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ACCRA06402  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 176677, 77 ADDIS ABABA 4803, 77 ACCRA 6201  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
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**SAS ID:** 1533429  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET-INSPIRED ATTACKS ON CIA  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, GH, ET, US, CIA  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009